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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

REF ID: A66584

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ACTION OFFICE CM-BS

INFO OCT-01 INHS-02 J-06 K-03 TB-03 TC-01 F-01 RA-01 [AP-05
CONG-01 / 028 A] 01

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	INA-05	EUR-00	SS-00	CIAE-00	[0-00
	DDOE-00	M-01	MSCE-00	NSAE-00	SS-00	NA-09	[0-00
	TRCE-00	PM-00	AIT-02	PA-01	OMB-01	INRE-00	USIE-00
	SP-00	SMP-00	PRS-01	P-02	T-01	/R39 W	

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6538
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
AIR TAIPEI PRIORITY
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL 57-403197

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I.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL, OYIP (SCOWCROFT, BRENT), CH, US
 SUBJECT: CHINESE OFFICIALS AND LOCAL CONTACTS UPBEAT
 -- ON RESULTS OF VISIT BY NATIONAL SECURITY
 -- ADVISOR SCOWCROFT AND DEPUTY SECRETARY
 -- EAGLEBURGER

2. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. IN MEETINGS THIS WEEK WITH OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL CHINESE CONTACTS, EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE HEARD OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE REACTIONS TO LAST WEEKEND'S VISIT BY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR SCOWCROFT AND DEPUTY SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT THE MFA, OTHER MINISTRIES, THINK TANKS, AND EVEN LOCAL MERCHANTS HAVE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS VISIT FOR BEGINNING THE RESTORATION OF SINO-U.S. RELATIONS.

3. REACTIONS BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INDICATIVE OF THE POSITIVE FEELING BY CHINESE OFFICIALS WERE COMMENTS MADE BY MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIALS DECEMBER 13 AND 14 AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DURING SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS ON SUBJECTS OTHER THAN SINO-U.S. RELATIONS. ALL MENTIONED THE TRIP AS AN ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT BY THE PRESIDENT AND TOUGHT TO ASSURE AMERICANS THAT THERE WOULD BE A RESPONSE ON THE CHINESE SIDE. IN A MEETING THIS WEEK, [REDACTED] OPENED TALKS WITH ECONOMICANS BY SAYING, "NOW THAT RELATIONS ARE BACK ON TRACK. . ." AN OFFICIAL

██████████ TOLD ECHOFF ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, THAT
"ALL OF US WERE HAVE BEEN WATCHING THE TELEVISION OVER
THE WEEKEND AND ARE VERY EXCITED ABOUT THIS
DEVELOPMENT."

4. THINK TANK EXPERTS PRAISE VISIT; [REDACTED]
EASTERN EUROPEAN SPECIALISTS AT THE CHINESE ACADEMY OF
[REDACTED] EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP PLEASURE
ABOUT THE VISIT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVED
SINO-U.S. RELATIONS. THEY SAID THE U.S. HAD CLEARLY
MADE THE FIRST MOVE, AND NOW CHINA MUST MAKE AN
APPROPRIATE RESPONSE. [REDACTED] ACKNOWLEDGED
THE POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES FOR PRESIDENT BUSH RESULTING

FROM NEGATIVE REACTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

SAID THAT RECENT EDITIONS OF REFERENCE. MATERIALS CIRCULATED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY
MEMBERS, HAVE CONTINUED MANY ARTICLES FROM WHICH A
CRITICAL OF THE SCHOENFELT VISIT.

3. MORE [] REACTION: ASKED HOW THE CHINESE
"MAN IN THE STREET" VIEWS THE VISIT, THEY SAID THAT,
WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS, CHINESE WHO CARE ABOUT THE
BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE RELATIONS
MOVE BACK TOWARDS NORMALIZATION. [] WENT ON
TO SAY THAT, ALTHOUGH MANY CHINESE MAY BE UNHAPPY WITH
THE JUNE 3-4 CRACKDOWN, ITS AFTERMATH, AND THE CURRENT
REGIME'S POLICIES, THERE EXISTS A DEEP TRADITIONAL
FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND THE UNITED
STATES. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY, THEY SAID, MANY-CHINESE
PEOPLE RECOGNIZE THAT IMPROVED SINO-U.S. RELATIONS MEAN
MORE INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGES AND ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL
TIES. ~~VIETNAM, WHICH HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN
SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS SINCE 1975, HAS BEEN A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF
U.S. POLICIES~~
~~AND POLICIES. VIETNAM HAS BEEN A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF U.S. POLICIES~~
~~AND POLICIES. VIETNAM HAS BEEN A MAJOR SUPPORTER OF U.S. POLICIES~~
[] SAID THEY BELIEVE MOST CHINESE KNOW THAT
CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. CAN ONLY RESULT IN
FURTHER REFORMS AT HOME AND A BETTER ECONOMIC SITUATION
FOR EVERYONE, NOTWITHSTANDING ATTEMPTS FROM WITHIN TO
BLOCK REFORMS.

6. PRIVATE REACTION : MERCHANTS ON A BUSY DOWNTOWN THOROUGHFARE COMMENTED POSITIVELY ON THE VISIT DURING A CHAT WITH ENBOFFS EARLY THIS WEEK. ONE SAID, "RELATIONS BETWEEN US ARE GOOD NOW, RIGHT?"

7. A COMMENT FROM THE PROVINCES:

TOLD SCIENCE MINISTERS ON DECEMBER 9 THAT HE WAS "VERY GLAD" TO HEAR OF THE VISIT, WHICH IS AN "AUSPICIOUS STEP" IN RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE-

UNITED STATES.

8. EMBASSY OPERATIONS: SOME EMBASSY OPERATIONS HAVE ALSO BEEN EFFECTED POSITIVELY BY THE VISIT. THE ECG TUC SECTION REPORTS THAT ~~SEVERAL DIFFICULTIES IN~~ SETTING APPOINTMENTS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICERS HAVE ~~BEEN~~ ELIMINATED THIS WEEK. MOREOVER, THE SECTION'S TOP INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM ~~TOP~~ TOP CANDIDATE, WHO EARLIER INFORMED US HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO TRAVEL THIS YEAR, TOLD ECON HINCUMS ON DECEMBER 13 HE WOULD ~~NOT BE ABLE TO TRAVEL~~ TRAVEL TO THE U.S. AS PROPOSED.

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
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